

What we don't control

- Our district's decisions about in person v. remote
 - Even a blend presents serious concerns
- Protocols required by our districts
 - Rehearsal procedures
 - Social distancing in performances, stands at games
- If there is a football season or not
 - Late Season start? No games at all?
 - Games with no crowd
 - Expectation that there will be halftime entertainment
- That parents will exercise the option to keep their students at home


Philosophical position

- We want to give our kids as full an experience as possible.
- We have to have good P.R.
 - Actually keep kids safe.
 - Also have the appearance of prioritizing student safety.
- Prioritize musical advancement
 - If we have to choose, musical instruction is more important in the long run than visual instruction.
 - A missed year of visual instruction can be made up more easily than a missed year of musical instruction

More Philosophical Position

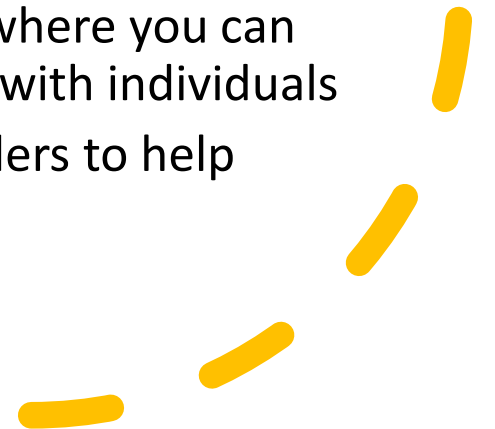
- Our students need to create an end product.
 - To recover motivation from the spring semester it is incredibly important that the kids perform.
 - They want to play.
 - The lower half of our program needs to feel the success that they would have felt with marching band.
- Must address fundamentals but not to the exclusion of performing, fun, popular music, appealing to the entire program top to bottom
- Keep schedule, expectations, interactions as “normal” as possible
- Also be realistic about how much time you really NEED and consider easing up a bit

Summer Band Issues and Ideas

- Social Distancing – Visual/Outdoors
 - Outdoors is the safest teaching space in the school
 - 8 step block (15') with 8 step margins around field can accommodate 171 students
 - 6 step block (11.25') with 8 step margins a possibility
 - 4 step block (7.5') can accommodate any band up to 660
 - Rehearse 100% outside
 - Take instrument back and forth
 - Try to avoid “gathering” where transmission can occur
 - Possibly have a rotation where students cool down for an indoor block
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Music rehearsal

- Social Distancing - Music
 - Outdoors still the safest space
 - Ensemble music rehearsal probably must be outdoors
 - Time of day a consideration
 - Can monitor individuals
 - No need to disinfect
 - Sectionals can find space around the school, indoors or out.
 - Too many limitations with classrooms
 - Do music instruction via ZOOM
 - Small groups where all can be seen on the screen
 - Teach a concept, give practice time where you can see them actually working, Check in with individuals
 - Use breakout rooms for student leaders to help younger students



Performances

- How much you can rehearse is going to dictate what you can do competitively
- To deal with parents keeping their students home – do parallel bands. Smaller with two or three groups learning the same show. Interchangeable spots.
- To deal with transportation, smaller/parallel groups will reduce buses required
- To deal with lack of rehearsal time
 - Non Competitive - Do a standstill or a “Blast” type performance focusing on individual movement skills rather than ensemble drill
 - Can be taught by video
 - Non-Competitive - To deal with lack of halftimes / competitions
 - Find other times places to perform
 - JV stadium “concert”
 - Community “openings”
 - Student pep rally type performances





Other Considerations

- Survey to get a feel for economic/financial situation of your families.
- Be creative finding ways for students to connect.
- “End product” may mean learning to edit video or audio parts together
 - Students learn all parts to something and do an Acapella Video
 - Use FinalCut or Acoustica or similar



Other Considerations

- Remote “registration day”
- If we can’t do full out marching band that doesn’t prevent us from doing music education
- It is imperative that we inspire our students
 - Find out what they love
 - Opportunities to listen, critique, compose, collaborate
 - New goals for practicing and performing
 - Portfolios?